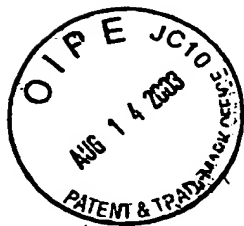


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PATENT APPLICATION
09/608,657



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	Fulvio (nmi) Arecco, et al.
Serial No.:	09/608,657
Filing Date:	June 30, 2000
Group Art Unit:	2633
Examiner:	David S. Kim
Title:	AUTOPROTECTED OPTICAL COMMUNICATION RING NETWORK

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AUG 19 2003

Technology Center 2600

MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S ACTION

In response to the Office Action mailed May 22, 2003, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider the claims in view of the following amendments and comments as set forth below. Please amend the Application as follows.